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REPORT NO.

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Bulgaria

20 June 1951 DATE DISTR.

SUBJECT

1. Border Defense Activity in

NO. OF PAGES 1

Ivaylovgrad Area 2. Bridge Over Cherna River Near Smolyan

PLACE **ACQUIRED** DATE OF

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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- 1. At the end of February 1951 near the village of Slaveevo, work had begun on a fence, five kilometers long running 30 meters from the border. Every five meters a wooden pole, about 150 cm. high, supported two lines of barbed wire; the highest wire was about 120 cm above the ground. Between the two wires were placed branches and leaves which reached to the ground. According to Bulgarian officers, the purpose of the fence is to prevent the Greek Border Guards and other foreigners from observing the movements of the Bulgarian Border Guards. The fence was not well constructed and the branches and poles often fell.
- 2. In March 1951 all roads from the Greek border into Bulgaria were blocked with a fence of four lines of barbed wire; the roads were also mined.
- 3. In June 1950 an engineer unit of the Fulgarian Army mined about 80 meters of the Ivaylovgrad-Edirne highway near the village of Slaveevo. The mines began about 30 meters inside the border, and were laid on both sides of the road 300 meters to the north and 500 meters to the south. The mining of the highway and fields was done at night. The mined portion of the road was blocked at both ends and the fields were guarded by Bulgarian Border Guards to prevent the peasants from entering.
- 4. The Ivaylovgrad-Dhidhimotikhon highway was mined in the same manner.
- 5. In the village of Slaveevo there was a Zastava command which belonged to the Svilengrad Uchastuk of the Elhovo Border Guard Sector.
- 6. In autumn 1950 a new concrete bridge was constructed on the Cerni River near the town of Smolyan. The bridge is about 20 meters long and 8 meters wide.

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